



PANEL OF JUDGES

Chief Judge

Irene Savari

President and CEO of International College of Music (ICOM). Has established international partnerships with Berklee College of Music, USA, and the University of Wolverhampton, UK. A Berklee graduate (Bachelor of Music in Commercial Arranging) and Drexel University Master of Science degree holder in Higher Education. Also a pianist, an EMI recording artiste, a composer and arranger, an audio systems consultant and a music entrepreneur.

Listed in alphabetical order:

1. A. Damootharan

40 years of singing experience. Learnt Indian Carnatic music and holds Grade 5 cert in Western classical music theory. Specialised music teacher. Keyboardist/vocalist. Experienced judge.

2. Ahmad Zairi Ariffin

Music producer, mixing & recording engineer, performer, music arranger, live audio engineer. Recorded and mixed multi-platinum album for artistes such as Search, Wings, M. Nasir, Iklim, Saleem, Jamal Abdillah and XPDC amongst others.

3. Athi Rajakumaran

A journalist with more than 30 years' experience in Tamil newspaper field. Has been an editor of Nayanam Tamil Weekly. Also an editorial advisor for Makkal Osai newspaper.

4. Bob Nathan

Producer/singer/composer/music arranger/production manager. Undertaken several music programmes for radio and TV. Experienced judge for several high-profile competitions.

5. Boobalan Krishnan

Graduate of FINAS, majoring in cinematography and direction. Movie and programme director, and director of photography.

6. Darul Abdullah

Experienced singer for over 30 years. Has performed on radio, TV and stage shows in Malaysia. Has also performed in Cochin and Chennai, India. Holds a Bachelor's degree and an MBA.

7. **Dr. Ravichanthiriga Suppiah**
20 years' experience in singing on radio/TV/jingles/local and overseas stage shows. Done voice-overs for local Tamil and Malay shows.
8. **Elavarasu Murasu Nedumaran**
Businessman/music director. 20 years' experience in Carnatic music. Mirudanggam specialist. Studied English music theory in Woodlands Music Academy. Composed music for several albums, dramas and memorial dedications. Experienced judge.
9. **Fauzi Marzuki**
Record Producer, Composer, Guitarist, Mixing & Mastering Engineer with 31 years' experience. Currently running own studio doing Mixing and Mastering for most of local Malay albums. A recipient of the Sri Wirama Award from the 15th edition of Anugerah Industri Muzik 2008.
10. **Francis Silvan**
Photographer/photo journalist. Producer in art, film and entertainment industry. Has won 23 prestigious awards. Actively promotes Malaysian tourism through documentaries. Has participated in various international film festivals. Experienced judge of film competitions.
11. **Ganesh Angappen**
Active in performing arts, event management and creative direction. Undertaken several advertising and marketing campaigns. Member of Film Directors' Association of Malaysia. Has written and directed several telemovies for television and also several stage events.
12. **Ghana Selvan Edward Peter**
Audio Engineer/Production experience in music/animation/movies. Has a Masters degree and has worked with many major audio post-production studios.
13. **Indira Manikam (Nattuva Thilagam)**
For 47 years has been the figurehead for both her Tanjai Kamalaa Indira Dance School and the traditional Indian dance community. Recognized for her efforts, she has won numerous awards and is one of the most respected traditional Indian performers in the country.
14. **Iskandar Siva**
Been in advertising industry for more than 15 years, worked on high profile brands producing famous TVC/Radio ads worked with legendary story teller late Yasmin Ahmad. A resourceful Creative Headed Producer, experienced in all medium platforms in local and foreign productions. Vast experience judging in local and international awards shows.
15. **Janarthana a/l G. Appalasamy**
Studied western musicology (theory, vocals, choir and musical instrumentation). Studied and performed Malay ethnic instruments. Involved in music education, syllabus and text books in primary and secondary schools. Has been teaching music in schools for 34 years. Studied Carnatic music. Experienced in judging music competitions.
16. **Jerry Retnam**
Producer/composer/singer/keyboardist/pianist/drummer. Has won several prestigious awards. Diploma in film-making, majoring in background scoring. Diploma in audio engineering. Works in production field for Sistem Televisyen Malaysia Bhd. Gives free music lessons to deserving children.

17. Jokin Joseph Raj

Diploma in film and video technology from VGP Institute of Film Technology, Chennai. 18 years' experience in various levels of TV and film production. Also experienced in film and TV cinematography, sound engineering, editing, script writing, and concept creation. Done documentaries and jingles.

18. K. Logeswaran

Principal/violinist/music composer. Established Academy for fine arts for violin and classical music lessons. Lecturer in Indian classical music. BA in Indian classical music and in performing arts from India. Experienced judge of music competitions.

19. K. Sukumaran

Presently holds a senior managerial position at RTM. A percussionist before joining RTM in 1970. Experience in producing Indian music shows on radio. Producer of talentime shows for MinnalFM.

20. K.V Sudhan

Vocalist in radio, TV and stage shows for 27 years. Experienced judge in talent competitions.

21. Karaikilar (Karupiah A/L Muthuramalingam)

A highly respected lyricist with over 40 years experience in the field. Has been in the music censorship board for local songs in RTM's Indian section. An experienced judge in many competitions.

22. Krishnandass A/L Parasuram

Many years of experience as composer and arranger and also managing audio systems. Presently owns and runs his own recording studio in KL.

23. Malathy a/p Nadarajah

Music teacher (15 years' experience). Studied Carnatic music and dancing (Bharatha Natyam). Diploma in Tamil and music. Experienced judge in music contests.

24. Manimehgalai d/o RPS Maniam (RPS Megala)

Singer/actress/dancer. Started singing career in school where she won 1st prize in the all-schools talentime contest. Performed in more than 100 stage shows, TV programmes, radio. Represented Malaysia in several tourism cultural dance festivals.

25. Minder Singh

Well-known singer/guitarist/pianist. Experienced in wind instruments and synthesizers.

26. Mohanan Suppiah

Has learnt basics of raga and methodology of swaras. Jazz pianist in special events. Singer/performer/actor.

27. Mohandass a/l M.S Dass

Established singer/actor. Member of Yayasan Seniman India Malaysia and of Yayasan Satu Artis Malaysia.

28. Nasir Datuk Ahmad Nawab

Producer/composer/lyricist/sessionist/sound engineer/studio manager/event director/artiste manager and musician. 35 years' experience in the music industry. Has won several awards. Worked with many professional composers and singers.

29. Panchacharam Nalliah aka Pansha & Suhan Panchacharam

Producer of 16 Malay feature films. Producer of the 1st 35mm Malaysian Tamil feature film. Producer of over 100 TV movies and serials in Malay and Tamil, plus English and Cantonese serials. Directed 3 Malay movies. Recognised actor in movies and serials. Winner of several prestigious awards.

30. S. Nalla Thambie

Respected musician. 30 years' experience in music field as keyboardist and percussionist and also as arranger.

31. Shri P. Kulal Kesavan

Flutist/music director/actor. 45 years' experience in music industry. Performed in Istana Budaya Orchestra. Performed at Royal Albert Hall, London with Siti Nurhaliza. Experienced judge.

32. Tanabalan a/l Sinniah @ ST Bala

24 years' experience in Malaysian arts industry. Written and directed 23 Tamil plays, 3 TV dramas, 5 Malay plays, 1 English play, 7 TV Tamil plays and telemovies. Staged plays in Chennai. Has introduced over 100 talented actors and actresses into the Indian arts field.

33. Subramaniam Sinnathamby

Wind instrument sessionist (trumpet/clarinet/alto, sax/soprano. Experienced in judging music competitions.

34. Suresh Rogen

Composer/singer/lyricist. Works as a recording artiste, sound engineer, composer and producer. Has won various awards. Specialises in fusion compositions. Experienced in judging music competitions.

35. Thamarai Jeya Gopi

Studied at Adaiyar Music College, Chennai. Now conducts music lessons in Malaysia. 10 years of experience in stage performances with legendary music directors and singers of India.

36. Thamizh Chelvi

Studied Carnatic music in India. Now conducts music lessons in Malaysia. Many years of experience in stage performances with music directors and singers.

37. Vemal Jeevan Verrappen

Singer/beat boxer/rapper/dancer/pianist/drummer/disc jockey. Won a Malay song contest at the age of 10. Since then, has won several music contests.

38. Yuvaraj Kaliaperumal

B.A. (Honours in Recording Arts), Australia. Diploma in audio engineering, pro-tools operator certificate, KL studio certificate. Received several awards. Judge for AIM (Malay).

39. Zailan Razak

Has over thirty years of experience as a professional musician, arranger, producer, musical director, and lecturer. Currently working as Senior Lecturer and also as the Coordinator for the Bachelor's Degree (Honors) Program in Music Performance at University of Technology MARA (UiTM), Course Leader and Senior Lecturer for various programs at the International College of Music (ICOM).